

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/612,750 Confirmation No.: 5548  
Applicant : Valade, JR., Franklin H.  
Filed : July 2, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 2636  
Examiner : Lieu, Julie Bichngoc  
  
Docket No. : C4-1184

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on November 24, 2006, with the three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 24, 2007, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and/or remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.